

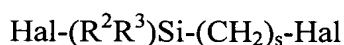
REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claims 2, 8 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 has been amended for clarification purposes by replacing the term "platinum ore metal " with "iridium." In addition, claim 1 has been amended for clarification purposes by replacing the terms "solid substance" and "adsorbent" with "carbon black." Support for the above amendments can be found in the present specification at least at page 3, lines 1-3 and page 6, lines 20-24, respectively. Claim 1 has further been amended for readability purposes by replacing the phrase "said process being characterized in that" with "wherein." In light of the above amendments to claim 1, claim 3 has been amended by deleting the phrase "and the platinum ore metal is iridium," and claims 12 and 13 have been amended by replacing the term "adsorbent solid" with "carbon black." Claims 3-7 and 10-13 have been amended for readability purposes by deleting the word "that" after "wherein."

In the Official Action, claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,359,161 (*Tonomura et al*) and U.S. Patent No. 4,272,288 (*Dessau*). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

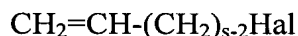
Independent claim 1 is directed to process for the preparation of a haloalkyldialkylchlorosilane of formula (I):



by the hydrosilylation reaction of a reaction medium comprising a silane of formula (II):



and an alkenyl halide of formula (III):



in the presence of a catalytically effective amount of a hydrosilylation catalyst based on iridium,

in which formulae:

- the symbol Hal represents a halogen atom chosen from chlorine, bromine and iodine atoms,
- the symbols R^2 and R^3 , which are identical or different, each represent a monovalent hydrocarbon group chosen from a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and a phenyl radical, and
- s represents an integer between 2 and 10 inclusive,

wherein at the end of the hydrosilylation reaction, the product of formula (I) formed is recovered and the iridium is recovered, said iridium being found in its original form of catalyst or in a converted form, the recovery of said iridium taking place under the following conditions a), b) and c):

a) the recovery of the iridium is carried out:

1. either directly on the reaction medium at the end of the reaction,
2. or on the liquid distillation residue, comprising the byproducts and the iridium or its derivatives, as is obtained after distillation of the reaction medium in order to separate therefrom the product of formula (I),

b) the iridium is recovered by bringing the reaction medium or the distillation residue into contact with an effective amount of carbon black which adsorbs the iridium, and

c) the carbon black is separated from the iridium for the purpose of recovering said iridium.

Tonomura et al relates to a process for preparing halopropyldimethylchlorosilanes which are useful as intermediates for the synthesis of various silane coupling agents and as modifiers for silicone fluid (col. 1, lines 4-7).

Tonomura et al does not disclose or suggest each feature recited in independent claim 1. For example, *Tonomura et al* does not disclose or suggest that at the end of the hydrosilylation reaction, the iridium is recovered, as recited in claim 1. The Patent Office has acknowledged such deficiency of *Tonomura et al* at page 3 of the Official Action. It is further noted that *Tonomura et al* fails to disclose or suggest that the recovery of iridium takes place under the conditions a), b) and c) recited in claim 1, for example, in which the iridium is recovered by bringing the reaction medium or the distillation residue into contact with an effective amount of carbon black which adsorbs the iridium.

Dessau discloses a process for the concentration, separation and/or recovery of precious metals, e.g. platinum and palladium. The process involves the selective removal of precious metals via their amine complexes from dilute aqueous solutions by sorption in a member of a class of zeolites. Recovery of the precious metals from the zeolite is achieved through desorption by ion exchange. The class of zeolites is characterized by a silica to alumina mole ratio of at least 12 and a constraint index within the approximate range of greater than about 2 to about 12 (col. 2, lines 13-25). *Dessau* further discloses that in order to conduct the process, the precious metal desired to be concentrated, separated and/or recovered must be in the amine complex form, e.g. $\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{+2}$ or $\text{Pd}(\text{NH}_3)_4^{+2}$ (col. 2, lines 34-37).

Dessau fails to cure the above-described deficiencies of *Tonomura et al*. For example, like *Tonomura et al*, *Dessau* does not disclose or suggest that the iridium is recovered by bringing the reaction medium or the distillation residue into contact with an effective amount of carbon black which adsorbs the iridium, as recited in claim 1. By

comparison, *Dessau* discloses the use of a class of zeolites characterized by a silica to alumina mole ratio of at least 12. There is simply no disclosure of the use of carbon black, let alone for the purpose of adsorbing iridium.

In fact, *Dessau* does not even relate to the recovery of iridium. Rather, *Dessau* is concerned with the separation and/or recovery of precious metals such as platinum and palladium, and provides no recognition or suggestion of the recovery of iridium. In stark contrast with the claimed invention, *Dessau* lists iridium together with rhodium and cobalt as metals from which the precious metals such as platinum and palladium are recovered (col. 2, lines 28-33). It is clear from such disclosure that iridium is not a precious metal which *Dessau* contemplates recovering. Simply put, *Dessau* provides no motivation or suggestion of the desirability of recovering iridium, nor is there any recognition or suggestion as to the manner in which iridium could be recovered.

For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists in view *Tonomura et al* taken alone or in combination with *Dessau*. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above §103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

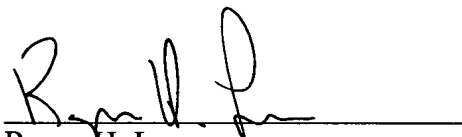
If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: April 23, 2007

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger H. Lee", is written over a horizontal line.

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